72. Needs of Kalkulam.

MR. K. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Member, Kalkulam taluk, Group I*) urged for the opening of a road from Mekkamandapam to meet the main road about the 29th mile. The people of the locality were prepared to give the required lands free of cost.

More irrigational facilities should be provided for the cultivation of the Perunchilampu Elai. The area concerned consisted of about 1000 kottas of paddy fields. The only source of water supply to these fields was the Nacharakottayar. No attention was now being paid to the maintenance of this channel. An allotment should be made every year for the maintenance of the channel.

The old Magistrate's court at Thiruvattar should be restored. There were, till 1097, 5 Taluk Magistrates, 2 Stationary Second Class Magistrates, one District Magistrate, and one First Class Magistrate in the Padmanabhapuram Division. But now there were only three Stationary Second Class Magistrates and one Additional District Magistrate. The average number of cases filed in the Kuzhithura Stationary Magistrate's court from Thiruvattar had gone down much and would in course of time dwindle further. This was due not because there was any fall in crimes at Thiruvattar but because parties could not afford to bear all the troubles of distant journeys. In fact there was a rise in the offences committed at Thiruvattar. The Stationary Magistrate's court at Kuzhithura had also a heavy file and considerable delay was being caused in the disposal of cases. A new Magistrate's court should therefore be opened at Thiruvattar.

DEWAN'S REPLY: MR. Padmanabha Pillai, in regard to the road from the Mekamandapam junction to the Thiruvattar-Azhakiamandapam road, upon your assurance that the people will give necessary lands free, I shall request the Chief Engineer to investigate it.

MEMBER: Thank you, Sir.

DEWAN: It is a fact, as you say, that owing to natural causes the seepage of Perunchilampu Elai is gradually getting less and less. How that is to be remedied, it will not be possible to say. What can be substituted is a system of tanks to store rain water and that is a large question which requires careful examination.

As regards the re-establishment of the Magistrate's court at Thiruvattar, I gather that the people of Thiruvattar are getting less and less litigious and you are afraid that at the present rate of retrogression, there will be no case filed in ten years' time. However, I shall ask the Dewan Peishkar and the District Magistrate to enquire into the matter.

MEMBER: Thank you, Sir.

73. Needs of the Kalkulam taluk.

MR. R. S. SUBRAHMONYA PILLAI (*Member, Kalkulam taluk, Group II*) spoke of the hardships caused to the ryots of Edanad in the matter of supply of water from the Kodayar dam. There was no equitable distribution of water from the dam. The poor ryots always got the worse of it in the scramble for water. The block boards and the central board created by Government were of no avail. They should therefore be either ended or mended. The new rules awaited from the Sub-Committee appointed by the Central Irrigation Board might perhaps remedy the present evils.

With irrigation was linked up the question of grazing cattle. It was necessary that at least an extent of 3000 acres of land at the foot of the Velimalai hills should be reserved as grazing grounds for cattle.

A dispensary should be opened at Alur. The people of the place had to go for medical aid to Nagercoil or Tuckalai, places 10 miles distant. Though there was a mission hospital at Neyyoor, 7 miles distant, the advantages of the same could be enjoyed only by monied men. A dispensary should therefore be opened at Alur.

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